

Constitution on September 17, 1787, and in recognition of those citizens who have come of age and those who have been naturalized during the year; and

36 USC 159.

WHEREAS by a joint resolution approved August 2, 1956 (70 Stat. 932), the Congress requested the President to designate the week beginning September 17 of each year as Constitution Week—a time for the study and observance of the acts and events which resulted in the formation of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS those resolutions of the Congress authorize the President to issue annually a proclamation calling for the observance of Citizenship Day and of Constitution Week:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN F. KENNEDY, President of the United States of America, call upon the appropriate officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on Citizenship Day, September 17, 1963; and I urge Federal, State, and local officials, as well as all religious, civic, educational, and other organizations, to hold appropriate ceremonies on that day to inspire all our citizens to rededicate themselves to the faith of the Framers of the Constitution and to the ideals upon which they founded this Nation.

I also designate the period beginning September 17 and ending September 23, 1963, as Constitution Week; and I urge the people of the United States to observe that week with appropriate ceremonies and activities in their schools and churches and in other suitable places to the end that our citizens may have a better understanding of the Constitution and of the rights and responsibilities of United States citizenship.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this twenty-sixth day of April in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-three, [SEAL] and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-seventh.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

By the President:

DEAN RUSK,  
*Secretary of State.*

**Proclamation 3535****MOTHER'S DAY, 1963****By the President of the United States of America  
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS the strength of our Nation depends upon the strength of the American home, which is based on the virtues fostered by the mothers of our country; and

WHEREAS the American mother plays a vital role by precept and example in building a strong family unit and in teaching our children to become good citizens; and

WHEREAS it is fitting that we should set aside one day of each year to acknowledge and express publicly our great affection, gratitude, and respect for the mothers of our Nation; and

April 26, 1963

WHEREAS by a joint resolution approved May 8, 1914 (38 Stat. 770) the Congress designated the second Sunday in May of each year as Mother's Day and requested the President to issue a proclamation calling for the public observance of that day: <sup>36 USC 141, 142.</sup>

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN F. KENNEDY, President of the United States of America, do hereby request that Sunday, May 12, 1963, be observed as Mother's Day, and I direct the appropriate officials of the Government to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on that day.

I urge the people of the United States to give expression on that day to their love and gratitude for their mothers—publicly by display of the flag at their homes or other suitable places, and privately through prayer and thoughtful acts of affection and devotion.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this twenty-sixth day of April in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-three, [SEAL] and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and eighty-seventh.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

By the President:

DEAN RUSK,  
*Secretary of State.*

### Proclamation 3536

#### PRAYER FOR PEACE, MEMORIAL DAY, 1963

By the President of the United States of America

April 26, 1963

#### A Proclamation

WHEREAS Memorial Day provides a fitting occasion for the American people to pause and realize that our Nation has survived recurring crises which have tried the souls of men; and

WHEREAS we recognize that the maintenance of our freedom has required constant vigilance, unified strength, and the willingness of our people to make all necessary sacrifices; and

WHEREAS we are accustomed to join together on Memorial Day each year in grateful tribute to our forebears and to our fellow citizens who have given their lives on the field of battle; and

WHEREAS in memory of their sacrifices in this noble cause we should keep faith with our heroic dead by humbly and devoutly supplicating Almighty God for guidance in our efforts to achieve a peaceful world; and

WHEREAS to this end the Congress, in a joint resolution approved May 11, 1950 (64 Stat. 158), requested the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe each Memorial Day as a day of prayer for permanent peace:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN F. KENNEDY, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim Memorial Day, Thursday, May 30, 1963, as a day of prayer for lasting peace, and I urge all citizens on that day to invoke God's blessing on those who have died in defense of our country and to pray for a world of freedom with peace and justice. I designate the hour beginning in each locality at eleven o'clock in the morning of that day as the time to unite in such prayer.